Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the present application.

Listing of the Claims:

1. (currently amended) A method for use in a distributed processing system to specify an application service comprising:

defining a schema written in XML comprising [[an]] a first operation having a plurality of arguments, the schema having a nested operation within said first operation;

validating the first operation's signature using said schema;

executing said first operation on a first processor in said distributed processing system in real time; ~~and~~

sending said nested operation to a second processor in the distributed processing system; and

executing said nested operation on [[a]] said second processor in said distributed processing system in real time,

wherein said schema renders unaltered underlying function calls which define said first operation and said nested operation .

2. (currently amended) A method in accordance with claim 1 further comprising validating the first operation's payload after validation of the contents of the payload.

3. (currently amended) A method in accordance with claim 1 wherein defining a schema comprising [[an]] a first operation having a plurality of arguments comprises defining a schema having a plurality of nested operations.

4. (currently amended) A method in accordance with claim 3 wherein defining a schema comprising [[an]] a first operation having a plurality of nested operations comprises defining a schema having one or more nested operations in one or more of said nested operations.

5. (original) A method in accordance with claim 2 wherein validating said schema further includes validating said nested operation.

6. (original) A method in accordance with claim 3 wherein validating said schema further includes validating said plurality of nested operations.

7. (original) A method in accordance with claim 4 wherein validating said schema further includes validating said one or more nested operations in one or more of said nested operations.

8. (original) A method in accordance with claim 1 further including the step of generating a program to perform the defined operations.

9. (original) A method in accordance with claim 1 further including the step of distributing operations to one or more members of the distributed system.

10. (original) A method in accordance with claim 9 wherein said step of defining a schema includes indicating one or more points where distributing operations is beneficial.

11. (cancelled)

12. (previously presented) A method in accordance with claim 1 wherein said operation and said nested operation are calls from a client application to a service application.

13. (previously presented) A method in accordance with claim 1 wherein said step of executing said operation further includes the steps of executing said operation at a first service application and executing said nested operation at a second service application.

14. (currently amended) A method for use in a distributed processing system to specify an application service comprising:

defining a schema written in XML comprising [[an]] a first operation having a plurality of arguments, the schema having a nested operation within said first operation, said first operation and said nested operation representing calls from a client application to a service application;

validating the first operation's signature using said schema; ~~and~~

executing said first operation on a first processor in said distributed processing system;

sending said nested operation to a second processor in the distributed processing system;

using said schema to generate a second program having an interface with grid management software, the second program and the grid management software being used to render the nested operation executable on said second processor; and

executing said nested operation on said second processor in said distributed processing system.

15. (currently amended) A method for use in a distributed processing system to specify an application service comprising:

defining a schema written in XML comprising [[an]] a first operation having a plurality of arguments, the schema having a nested operation within said first operation;

validating the first operation's signature using said schema; ~~and~~

executing said first operation at a first service application on a first processor in said distributed processing system in real time;~~, and~~

sending the nested operation to a second processor in the distributed processing system from the first service application; and

executing said nested operation at a second service application on said second processor in said distributed processing system in real time, said first service becoming a client application for said second service application.